

HOW A CONNECTICUT HOMEMAKER AND A NEBRASKA HOMEMAKER STREAMLINED THEIR HOUSEKEEPING FOR WARTIME

Here are Mr. and Mrs. Cass County and their son James, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, who live on a 240-acre farm in Nebraska. Mrs. Cass always was responsible for the garden and chickens, but since Pearl Harbor, she has also assumed responsibility for the larger part of the chores and the milking. She helps grind stock feed $\frac{1}{2}$ day a week, she feeds cattle, and sometimes drives the tractor.

Eleven children have grown up in Mr. and Mrs. Hampton's household in Connecticut. Eight are still at home. One boy works on the railroad; one drives an oil truck; one works as a mechanic; one cares for the cow and one for the chickens. The three girls all cook and make their own clothes. Mrs. Hampton plays the piano and has taught all the children to play.

THIS IS WHAT SHE DOES TO STREAMLINE HER HOUSEKEEPING, AS TOLD TO THE COUNTY HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT

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| 1. Washes only once every 2 weeks. | 1. Sees that things are ready for breakfast at night. |
| 2. Irons from the line. | 2. Never gets breakfast. Each family member gets his own breakfast and cleans up after himself. |
| 3. Buys clothes easy to iron. | 3. Has well-organized storage areas. |
| 4. Presses workshirts and overalls dry. | 4. Knows how to organize work and how to get excellent cooperation from family. |
| 5. Has her magazines shelved and classified in a store room. | 5. Has jobs lined up for others when they come in. |
| 6. Puts cooking utensils to soak as soon as they are emptied. | 6. Is always ready to go with the children whenever she is invited to do so. |
| 7. Scalds dishes and puts them to drain in a draining rack. | 7. Never refuses to let the children do anything they want to do unless there is a good reason why they shouldn't, or even then she often lets them try it. |
| 8. Does her mending and sewing in the daytime while light is good and she is not tired. | 8. Says that keeping house is not all there is to being a homemaker. |
| 9. Dusts thoroughly once a week. | 9. Eliminates extra dishes and serving as long as it does not rob the meal of its "eye appeal." |
| 10. Leaves evening dishes to be done with the breakfast dishes. | 10. Serves directly on plates from the stove. |
| 11. Plans and markets for meals a week in advance. | 11. Follows the same washing and ironing ideas as Mrs. Cass. |
| 12. Serves one-dish meals. | 12. Teaches children that their first responsibility as citizens is to pay for their own board and clothes. Other things come after. |
| 13. Brushes vegetables well and cooks them with the peeling on. | 13. Children ask advice of their father on purchasing new cars, livestock, or on undertaking any new work. |
| 14. Takes James and his playthings in the wagon with her to the field or leaves him alone in a play pen. An unsolved management problem is to find someone to take care of James while she is doing farm work. | |
| 15. Has dropped all organizations but church and home demonstration club. | |
| 16. Does her own papering and house cleaning in the winter. | |

WAYS IN WHICH SHE PLANS TO IMPROVE HER OWN MANAGEMENT:

She plans to do less puttering and to put things away better.

WAYS IN WHICH SHE PLANS TO IMPROVE HER OWN MANAGEMENT:

She plans to build a closet for coats, boots, and mittens in wintertime.

WHAT ARE YOUR STREAMLINING HOUSEWORK IDEAS? CAN YOU USE ANY OF THESE GIVEN BY MRS. CASS AND MRS. HAMPTON? WHICH ONES?

WARTIME HOME-MANAGEMENT TIPS

Be convinced of the importance of your own housekeeping and home-making toward winning the war.

Know your physical limitations.

Stop physical work before extreme fatigue sets in.

Decide the "musts" and the "per-haps" jobs. Stick to the "musts."

Keep every piece of household equipment in good running order. Place where it can be used easily.

Use only rooms necessary. Stop cleaning rooms, furnishings, and equipment that can be put aside for the duration.

Store food, equipment, clothes, care-fully. Have plenty of shelves spaced efficiently, plenty of hangers, plenty of hooks, plenty of towel racks, all placed where needed.

Anticipate money needs for taxes, war bonds, community chest, payment of debts. During the war, help pay for the war by buying war bonds and stamps.

Learn to do a new housekeeping job by asking someone who knows how to teach you. "Experience is the best teacher" was never true, and is less true in wartime.

Timeliness pays big dividends. Be timely in doing housework. Use time for making plans.

HOMEMAKER BY HOMEMAKER

HOME BY HOME

WE MUST MANAGE BETTER THAN EVER BEFORE

HOW TWO HOMEMAKERS ARE

MANAGING IN WARTIME

Suggested leaflet assembled from two homemakers' stories by extension economist, home management, Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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